

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner objected to claim 3 because the term “coire cores” should be “coil cores.” Applicant notes that claim 3 has been amended.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Applicant’s cited prior art Tomoichirou et al., Japan Pat. No. 2003-206813. Tomoichirou does not teach all the limitations of claims 1 and 12. More specifically Tomoichirou does not teach “an induction heating element...said induction heating element being disposed along said heat roller to face at least a part of said heat roller.” Tomoichirou teaches the use of multiple induction heating elements spaced at intervals along the length of the roller. Applicant directs the Examiner’s attention to Figure 5 of Tomoichirou. Figure 5 shows three separate induction heating elements L1, L2, and L3 spaced at intervals the length of a fixing roller 10. The induction elements do not extend the along the length of the fixing roller but instead are spaced at intervals the length of the fixing roller. Therefore, Tomoichirou does not show or teach an induction heating element disposed along the length of a heat roller.

Tomoichirou does not teach all the limitations of claims 1, 2, 8, 12, 13, 19, and 23. More specifically Tomoichirou does not teach “...said plurality of coil cores such that a longitudinal direction of one of said plurality of coil cores forms a predetermined angle with said longitudinal direction of said induction heating element.” Figure 3 of Tomoichirou shows the induction heating element L1 coiled around a middle leg of the its substance core 1e. Since the

longitudinal direction of a part is defined as the length of that part, the longitudinal direction of the induction heating element L1 would be the length of the coiled portion. Therefore, the longitudinal direction of both the induction heating coil and substance core would be in the same direction (from right to left). Thus, the longitudinal direction of the induction heating element and substance core would be parallel and no angle would exist between the two.

Therefore, Tomoichirou does not teach all the limitations of claims 1, 2, 8, 12, 13, 19, and 23.

Tomoichirou does not teach all the limitations of claims 11 and 22. More specifically, Tomoichirou does not teach "wherein length of induction heating element is larger than length of the heat roller..." Figure 5 of Tomoichirou clearly shows that the length of the any one of the induction heating coils L1, L2, and L3 is not larger in length that the fixing (heating) coil 10. Thus, Tomoichirou does not teach all the limitations of claims 11 and 22.

Applicant further notes that claims 3-7, 9, 10, 14, 17, and 18 depend either directly or indirectly on independent claim 1 and claims 15, 16, 20, and 21 depend either directly or indirectly on independent claim 12 and thus all arguments pertaining to claims 1 and 12 are applicable to these dependent claims and are herein incorporated by reference.

The Examiner rejected claims 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Applicant's cited prior art, Takagi et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,078,781. Takagi does not the all the limitations of claim 24. More specifically Takagi does not teach "an inductive heating unit having a magnetizing coil which is opposed to the outer peripheral surface of the heat generating member...and wound along the direction of the circumference of the heat generating member..." Referring to Figure 1 and to column 7, lines 12-50 of Takagi, Figure 1 clearly shows the entire induction heating unit 102, including the coils 111, positioned inside the heating roller 103 and

not along the outer peripheral surface of the heating roller. Thus, Tomoichirou does not teach all the limitations of claim 24.

Applicant further notes that claim 25 depends directly independent claim 24 and thus all arguments pertaining to claim 24 are applicable to claim 25 and are herein incorporated by reference.

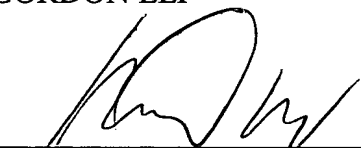
In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 35874.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 8, 2004